

COUNCIL OF THE ISLES OF SCILLY

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Tel: Scillonia 28

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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To: The Chairman and Members of the Council of the Isles of Scilly.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the year ending 31st December, 1948.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	4,041 acres
Population	1,720 approx.
Number of families	500 "
Rateable Value	£5,600
Sum represented by ld. rate	20

Vital Statistics

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	(Legitimate	18	15	33
	(Illegitimate	1	3	4
		<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>37</u>
Still Births	(Legitimate	2	Nil	2
	(Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
		<u>2</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>2</u>
Deaths of Infants under one year of age		2	2	4
Deaths		8	10	18

BIRTH RATE 21.8
DEATH RATE 10.6

There has been a slight decrease in the Birth rate as compared to last year, which was 22.35 but the death rate is less than last year, which was 11.8.

The Chief Cause of Death at all ages

Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels		Eleven
Cancer		One
Pneumonia		Two
Congenital Deformities	} Under one year of age	Two
Prematurity		One
Marasmus		One

Notifiable Diseases

Tuberculosis	No cases.
Small Pox	No cases (13 cases were vaccinated against small pox).
Measles	One
Scarlet Fever	One
Diphtheria	No cases (54 cases were immunised against diphtheria).
Whooping Cough	32 cases were notified - no deaths.
Pneumonia	4 cases - two deaths.

Maternity and Child Welfare

A Welfare Centre has been set up in the Church Hall, St. Mary's and at the District Nurses Surgery on Tresco. Ante natal examinations are carried out on each expectant mother at four-weekly intervals. Post natal examinations are undertaken at the sixth week after a confinement. All expectant mothers, except one, attended at the Centre since it was started. In addition, children up to five years of age are seen at regular intervals at the Clinic. Eight expectant mothers received dental treatment during the year, but many have gone without, owing to the fact that no Dentist has been in attendance since July, 1948.

Gas and Air analgesia has been used on all mothers in their confinements during the year. This has been found to be of considerable help in the relief of pain in the vast majority of cases.

Ambulance Services

The towing vehicle of the Fire Service has been improvised to carry two stretchers. Enquiries have been made from a number of patients who have had to use this ambulance. They state that the ambulance is not comfortable. It would appear that the stretcher rests are not sufficiently well sprung. The ambulance services to the off-islands are undertaken by the Isles of Scilly Steamship Company and are satisfactory. Cases who have to be transferred to the Mainland are sent usually by air, and the British European Airways and the Island Air Services are very co-operative in this.

Water Supply

This is quite satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Meat and Foods

These have been quite satisfactory during the year and there have been no outbreaks of food poisoning.

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) J. KELLY, M.B., B.Ch.